



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**John Hoeven**  
Governor

PROCLAMATION  
**INFLAMMATORY BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**  
OCTOBER 2010

**WHEREAS**, Inflammatory Breast Cancer (IBC) is a type of breast cancer in which the cancer cells block the lymph vessels in the skin of the breast causing the breast to feel warm, shooting pain or persistent itching and appear swollen, red or inflamed, and symptoms may appear virtually overnight; and

**WHEREAS**, symptoms of IBC are similar to those of mastitis, a benign breast infection, resulting in misdiagnoses of IBC cases, and as a consequence, the delay of appropriate care often means a Stage IV diagnosis; and


**WHEREAS**, IBC accounts for only 1 to 5 percent of all breast cancer cases, but is considered the most aggressive form because IBC has a faster doubling time than other breast cancers; statistically, the 5-year median survival rate is approximately 40 percent, mainly due to delays in diagnosis and resistance to treatment with standard chemotherapy drugs; and

**WHEREAS**, IBC usually grows in nests or sheets and can quickly spread throughout the breast without forming a lump that can be detected by self-examinations, mammograms or ultrasounds; and

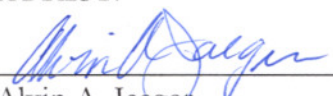
**WHEREAS**, the treatment for IBC is different from other breast cancer treatments, so it is important for women to see a physician immediately with experience in treating this type of breast cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to increase awareness and educate the public and the medical community about IBC and to continue the fight against this devastating disease.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2010, **INFLAMMATORY BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

  
John Hoeven  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State